

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING AND PUBLIC COMMENT

Virginia Department of Environmental Quality- Southwest Regional Office

The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) seeks written and oral comments from interested persons on the development of a water quality Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for Hunting Camp Creek in Bland County. The stream was listed on the 1998 303(d) TMDL Priority List and Report as impaired due to violations of the State's water quality standard for Aquatic Life Use due to benthic impairment. In 2002 the 303(d) List was amended to include impairment of the swimmable use due to bacteria violations. Currently, Hunting Camp Creek is impaired for both aquatic life use and the swimmable use so the TMDL study will address both impairments.

The first public meeting on the development of the TMDL to address these water quality impairments for Hunting Camp Creek will be held on **Monday, September 22, 2003, 7:00 p.m.** at the Bland County Board of Education offices in Bastian Virginia. The Bland County Board of Education Office is located on Route 615 in Bastian, Virginia. Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act and §62.1-44.19:7.C of the Code of Virginia require DEQ to develop TMDLs for pollutants responsible for each impaired water contained in Virginia's 303(d) TMDL Priority List and Report.

Hunting Camp Creek is located in Bland County and flows through Bastian. The 8.5 mile segment begins at the impoundment above the community of Suiter and continues to the mouth at Wolf Creek. The stream parallels Route 615 and Route 52.

The public comment period will end on October 24, 2003. Fact sheets on the development of the TMDL for the bacteria and benthic impairments are available upon request or can be viewed at the DEQ website: <http://www.deq.state.va.us/tmdl/>. Questions or information requests should be addressed to Nancy T. Norton, P. E. Written comments should include the name, address, and telephone number of the person submitting the comments and should be sent to Nancy T. Norton, P. E., Department of Environmental Quality, P. O. Box 1688, Abingdon, Virginia 24212-1688, telephone (276) 676-4807, fax (276) 676-4899, or e-mail ntnorton@deq.state.va.us.